



leafy greens

by Sue Morgan

Use sustainable hemp-blend fabric to create a handy tote, and then embroider it with a lovely leaf-and-vine design.

SUPPLIES

1 yard of undyed hemp/linen blend fabric
½ yard of green mediumweight cotton fabric
3⅞" x 11" rectangle of stiff plastic or heavy-weight interfacing
All-purpose thread
Assorted shades of green embroidery floss
Embroidery hoop
Embroidery needle
Removable fabric marker
Fabric glue

Use ⅜" seam allowances unless otherwise noted.

CUT IT

Download the Leafy Greens purse pattern at sewnews.com/sewitall; cut out.

From the linen, cut two outer bags, two 4⅞" x 26¼" straps and two 1⅝" x 16¼" facings.

From the cotton fabric, cut two linings and one 5¼" x 10½" pocket.

Round the plastic rectangle corners so they don't poke through the linen.

SEW IT

Transfer the Leafy Greens embroidery design from sewnews.com/sewitall onto each outer bag.

Thread the needle with three strands of embroidery floss. Hoop one outer bag right side up. Embroider each leaf and vine using a stem stitch, alternating shades of green embroidery floss. Stitch the leaf veins using a long straight stitch.

Repeat to embroider the remaining bag piece.

With right sides together, stitch the bag side and lower edges. Press open the seams.

Pinch the bag lower corners, aligning the side and lower seams. Stitch across the short edges to box the corners (1). Turn the bag right side out.

Position one facing strip along one lining piece upper edge with right sides together; stitch. Press the seam toward the lining. Topstitch the lining $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the seam. Repeat to stitch the remaining facing strip to the remaining lining piece.

Serge- or zigzag-finish the pocket perimeter. Fold the pocket edges $\frac{3}{8}$ " to the wrong side; press. Designate one long edge as the upper edge. Fold the upper edge $\frac{5}{8}$ " to the wrong side; press. Stitch the upper edge close to the first

fold. Using a removable fabric marker, draw two pocket divider lines, each $3\frac{1}{4}$ " from and parallel to each side edge.

Position the pocket over one lining piece, following the pattern marking; pin. Edgestitch the pocket side and lower edges, and then stitch along each pocket divider line (2).

With right sides together, stitch the lining side and lower edges. Press open the seams. Box the lower corners.

Fold each strap in half lengthwise with right sides together; press. Stitch the long open edges. Turn the straps right side out; press, and then edgestitch.

Fold the bag and lining upper edges $\frac{5}{8}$ " to the wrong side; press.

Dot fabric glue along the bag base. Position the plastic rectangle over the bag base; let the glue dry.

Position the lining inside the bag with wrong sides together; pin the upper edge. Position the strap short ends between the bag and lining layers according to the pattern markings; pin.

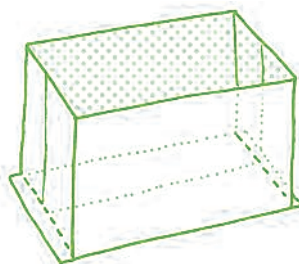
FINISH IT

Topstitch $\frac{1}{16}$ " from the bag upper edge (3). Stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " below the first stitching line; press. ✚

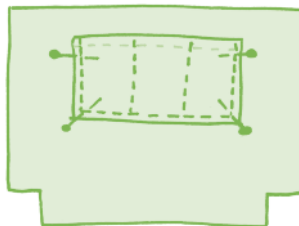
 Learn the hand embroidery stitches needed for this project on page 29.

TIP Cut the plastic rectangle for the purse base from a recycled milk or juice jug.

1.



2.



3.

